IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, as amended, a copy of the marked-up version of the original claim is attached to this response showing the changes made therein.

3. (Amended) The rear projection display device according to claim 1, wherein the polarization direction of at least the green component out of the image light irradiated on the screen is parallel to the vertical cross section of the screen.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 23, 2001, has been received and carefully noted. The period for response having been extended from January 23, 2002, until April 23, 2002, by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, the amendments made herein and following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 3 has been amended. The specification has also been amended to more clearly discuss the subject matter of the Applicants' invention. No new matter has been added by the amendments made herein. Thus, claims 1-38 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1, 14 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by Shikama (U.S. Patent No. 5,285,287). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and submit that each of these claims recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-13 are dependent, recites a rear projection display device comprising a light source lamp, a color splitting means for splitting light emitted from the light source lamp into a plurality of color components, and a plurality of liquid crystal panels for optically modulating each color light split by the color splitting means. The rear projection display device further comprises a color synthesizing means for synthesizing each of the color light modulated by the liquid crystal panels, and a projection means for projecting image light which is color-synthesized by the color synthesizing means on a screen from slantly above or from slantly below. The